

Message Text

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, OVIP KISSINGER, HENRY A.

SUBJECT:MBFR: STATUS REPORT ON NEGOTIATIONS, JUNE 22-28,
1974

1. FOLLOWING IS THE WEEKLY STATUS REPORT ON THE MBFR
NEGOTIATIONS.

2. EASTERN FIRST STEP PROPOSAL. EASTERN NEGOTIATORS ADDED
LITTLE TO THE SUBSTANCE OF THEIR "FIRST STEP" PROPOSAL THIS
WEEK; HOWEVER, THEY CONTINUED THEIR EFFORTS TO SELL IT,
BOTH IN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH INDIVIDUAL WESTERN REPS
AND IN AN INFORMAL SESSION WITH ALLIED NEGOTIATORS ON JUNE
25. THE ALLIES ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE EASTERN PROPOSAL
REFLECTED SOME SLIGHT FLEXIBILITY IN DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN
GROUPS OF DIRECT PARTICIPANTS AND IN PROVIDING FOR STAGGERED
REDUCTIONS. HOWEVER, THE ALLIES NOTED THAT THE EASTERN
PROPOSAL WAS NOT A SIGNIFICANT DEPARTURE FROM THE ORIGINAL
EASTERN POSITION THAT ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST REDUCE IN A
FIRST STEP OF REDUCTIONS. SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE KHLESTOV
RECONFIRMED THAT UNDER THE EASTERN FIRST STEP PROPOSAL, ALL
REDUCTIONS SHOULD BE CONCLUDED IN 1975 WHILE NEGOTIATIONS
CONTINUED ON OTHER REDUCTIONS. IN A BILATERAL CONVERSATION

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ON JUNE 25, HE EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT EVEN TENTATIVE

RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE OF WHOSE FORCES SHOULD BE REDUCED FROM THE OUTSET (I.E., ONLY US AND SOVIET, OR THOSE OF ALL DIRECT PARTICIPANTS) WOULD DEPEND ON AT LEAST PARTIAL

RESOLUTION ALSO OF THE ISSUE OF THE SIZE OF REDUCTIONS AND TYPE OF FORCES TO BE REDUCED.

3. ASSURANCE ABOUT ALLIED PARTICIPATION IN PHASE II. THE ALLIES HAVE NOW AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO AUTHORIZE ALLIED NEGOTIATORS IN VIENNA TO OFFER TO THE EAST THE ASSURANCE THAT THE WESTERN CONTRIBUTION TO PHASE II REDUCTIONS LEADING TO A COMMON CEILING WILL INCLUDE ALL NON-US DIRECT PARTICIPANTS. WHEN GIVEN TO THE EAST, THIS WILL BE THE LAST OF FOUR ASSURANCES ABOUT PHASE II DESIGNED TO WIN EASTERN ACCEPTANCE OF THE ALLIED FIRST PHASE APPROACH RESTRICTED TO US AND SOVIET REDUCTIONS.

4. THE ONE REMAINING OBSTACLE TO NATO AUTHORIZATION TO THE AD HOC GROUP TO PUT FORWARD THIS LATEST ASSURANCE IS AN FRG CONTENTION THAT THE ASSURANCE SHOULD ULTIMATELY BE IN THE FORM OF A SEPARATE DECLARATION INSTEAD OF INCORPORATING IT IN A FIRST PHASE AGREEMENT. ALL OTHER ALLIES AGREE THIS ISSUE OF FORMAT CAN BE LEFT OPEN FOR FUTURE DECISION AND, HOPEFULLY THE FRG WILL JOIN THIS CONSENSUS WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. ALLIED NEGOTIATORS HOPE TO BE ABLE TO USE THIS ASSURANCE WITH THE EAST IN THE NEAR FUTURE. SISCO

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